

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EUR-08 SP-02 PRS-01

INR-05 CIAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 PM-03

DODE-00 /044 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:RRSTRAND:GJB

APPROVED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER

EUR/WE:KSHIRLEY

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O 041514Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 024972

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR,BE, CG

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE ROYAL VISIT TO ZAIRE

REF: BRUSSELS 0909

1. IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM REFTEL WHETHER GOB'S RELUCTANCE "EXPRESS SUPPORT" FOR MOBUTU AT THIS TIME RELATES TO IMPACT OF NEW NATIONALIZATION MEASURES ON BELGIAN INTERESTS, AND HENCE ON DOMESTIC BELGIAN POLITICS, OR INSTEAD DERIVES FROM GOB BELIEF THAT MOBUTU'S POSITION IN ZAIRE HAS BECOME SHAKY. IF LATTER IS THE CASE, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HOW GOB REACHES THIS CONCLUSION AND PARTICULARLY HOW SERIOUSLY IT SEES THREAT OF ARMY ALIENATION (SEE RAULIER'S COMMENTS REPORTED KINSHASA 0250). ALTHOUGH NEW ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MEASURES THREATEN IMPORTANT VESTED INTERESTS IN ZAIRE AND HAVE PRODUCED SOME GRUMBLING, WE SEE NO EVIDENCE IN EMBASSY KINSHASA'S REPORTING OR ELSEWHERE THAT DISCONTENT OF AFFECTED ELEMENTS IS LIKELY TO BE TRANSLATED INTO EFFECTIVE POLITICAL

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OPPOSITION (SEE PARTICULARLY KINSHASA 0518 AND 0381). IF

ECONOMIC SITUATION CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE, WITH NEW MEASURES CREATING PROLONGED, SERIOUS DISRUPTION, WE CAN ENVISAGE GRADUAL LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN MOBUTU'S LEADERSHIP AND EROSION OF HIS SUPPORT, BUT EVEN IN THIS EVENTUALITY WE DO NOT SEE NOW WHERE EFFECTIVE POLITICAL OPPOSITION LIKELY TO COME FROM.

2. IF ONE ASSUMES THAT MOBUTU'S POSITION IS NOT THREATENED, IT IS HARD TO SEE WHAT GOB WOULD GAIN, EXCEPT PERHAPS IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL TERMS, IN OFFENDING MOBUTU AT TIME WHEN SUBSTANTIAL BELGIAN INTERESTS (SOCIETE GENERALE COMPENSATION, OTHER COMPENSATION, COPPER SUPPLY, EXPORT MARKET) STAND TO BE SERVED BY PRESERVING HIS GOODWILL. IF MOBUTU DESIRES VISIT FOR HIS OWN POLITICAL PURPOSES, IT WOULD SEEM EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR GOB TO SEEK RECIPROCAL BENEFITS.

3. EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON ABOVE AND EXTENSIVE KINSHASA REPORTING IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB BUT SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT WE REGARD ROYAL VISIT AS MATTER BETWEEN GOB AND GOZ ON H-C' USG WILL NOT PRESUME TO ADVISE. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 BRUSSELS 0909  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, BE, CG, (MOBUTO SESE SEKO)  
**To:** BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
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